

## **REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated August 3, 2009, claims 23-40 were presented for examination. Claims 23-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over *Port et al.*, European Patent Publication No.0561381, in view of *Grow*, U.S. Patent No. 4,538,147, in view of *Caves et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,713,807, and in further view of *Berglund et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0154285. Claims 32-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Port et al.*, in view of *Grow*, in view of *Caves et al.*, in view of *Berglund et al.*, and in further view of *Denecheau et al.*, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0112065. Claims 38-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Port et al.*, in view of *Grow*, in view of *Caves et al.* Claims 30 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent from including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended claims 23, 38, 39, and 40 to incorporate the limitations of claims 30 and 31 as suggested by the Examiner. In view of the amendments, the rejections to claims 23-40 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are now moot.

In view of the forgoing amendment to the claims, it is submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Applicants are not conceding in this application that those claims in their prior forms are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the application. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuation and/or divisional patent applications. Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that she be contacted at the number indicated below.

For the reasons outlined above, withdrawal of the rejection of record and an allowance of

this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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